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7/5/ Warren A. Henderson  
Oct 11 1965

April 23, 1959

c. 11:30 a.m.

Walter Reed Hospital

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

Secretary Dulles  
Secretary Herter  
Mr. Dillon

The Vice President  
Mr. Allen Dulles  
Mr. Greene

Secretary Dulles said that he thought a difficult period lies ahead in our relations with the British. Among other evidences of this is Mr. Macmillan's letter to the President, a copy of which the British Ambassador sent Mr. Herter on April 21. Despite any difficulties, however, it is important that we act with our allies and in so doing the new Secretary of State must be firm on the basis of positive positions. Because ours is the determinant power in the alliances, our allies must in the end realize that, if we give firm leadership, they will have to accept our positions.

Secretary Dulles thought that the present British Government may try to assert a leadership, and in this may have the subtle encouragement of the Soviets. He thought this would make Mr. Herter's position difficult in the immediate future, as the British may try to take advantage of his "newness" on the job.

The Vice President observed that there may be some in the Senate on the Democratic side who will try to assert a leadership in this country. He thought it important that the Secretary of State and the Administration not give them the opportunity to do so.

Secretary Dulles agreed and noted that Senator Fulbright for one is of friendly disposition toward the British and toward the parliamentary form of government; in the latter connection, Secretary Dulles recalled Senator Fulbright's demand of some years back that President Truman resign -- an apparent effort to get for the Legislative Branch a predominant role in the formulation and execution of policy.

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Joseph N. Greene, Jr.

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